

[18 April, 2001]

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modernization of police and security forces, raising of additional battalions of border guarding forces, intensification of patrolling both on the land and riverine borders, induction of modern equipments to prevent illegal activities from across Indo-Pakistan, Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Nepal borders.

There also exist bilateral institutional mechanisms such as the Joint Working Group on Border Management with Nepal and Bangladesh separately to enhance co-operation particularly with regard to implementing effective border management and curbing illegal cross border activities.

Illegal money exchange through Bangladesh migrants

3508. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal Bangladeshi migrants send funds home via a courier who return with more illegal immigrants; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to stop such illegal money exchange racket from India to Bangladesh as well as check the problem of illegal immigrants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No such case has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Government have taken all necessary steps to prevent illegal migration, smuggling of goods and illegal money exchange etc. These include, *inter alia*, construction of border roads, border fencing, raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between Border Outposts, intensification of patrolling both on land and the riverine border, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of surveillance equipment including night vision devices, etc. The matter has also been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh at various levels from time to time. There are standing instructions to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to detect and deport foreigners staying illegally.